

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 SCCT-02 DRC-01 /131 W

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P R 151200Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1475

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0914

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: QADHAFI INTERVIEWED BY AMERICAN JOURNALIST

1. COLONEL QADHAFI GRANTED LONG AND WIDE RANGING INTERVIEW  
AUG 14 TO FREE-LANCE JOURNALIST KATHERINE KOCH,  
HIS FIRST TO AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT IN LONG TIME.  
EMBOFF HAS LISTENED TO TAPE OF RAMBLING INTERVIEW,  
WHICH WAS PLAGUED BY POOR INTERPRETING, AND FROM WHICH  
FOLLOWING IS DRAWN. INTERVIEW MAY NOT BE PUBLISHED IN  
U.S. PRESS FOR SOME DAYS, AS KOCH HAS NOT DECIDED  
WHAT TO DO WITH TAPE, AND ITS CONTENTS SHOULD BE STRICTLY  
PROTECTED. IN THIS MESSAGE WE REPORT ONLY THAT WHICH  
IS OF IMMEDIATE INTEREST. OTHER PORTIONS OF INTERVIEW  
WILL FOLLOW BY SEPTTEL.

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2. EGYPTIAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS: QADHAFI IS ASKED WHY HE

THINKS PRESIDENT SADAT IS ATTACKING LIBYA AND HIS PERSON.  
COULD IT BE BECAUSE OF INTERNAL DISSENSION WITHIN  
EGYPT, AND EGYPTIAN DESIRE TO MAKE LIBYA SCAPEGOAT? "POSSIBLY",  
QADHAFI ANSWERS. "I ASK MYSELF THIS QUESTION. WORD  
SCAPEGOAT IS ACCURATE, BECAUSE SCAPEGOAT IS SOMEONE WHO  
IS WRONGED". RESPONDING TO ANOTHER QUESTION AS TO WHY SADAT  
FEELS IT  
NECESSARY TO ATTACK LIBYA, IN VIEW OF FEELING OF NATIONAL  
PRIDE IN EGYPT AFTER OCTOBER WAR, QADHAFI SAYS: "HIS  
FEELINGS OF PRIDE ARE SHAM FEELINGS. SHAM FEELINGS OF  
PRIDE IN A SHAM VICTORY. WHAT WAS RESULT (OF OCTOBER  
WAR? IT CHANGED NOTHING, AND RESULT IS ALL TO  
ADVANTAGE OF THE ENEMY". BUT WHAT LED SADAT TO  
ATTACK LIBYA? "HE WAS PUSHED", QADHAFI ANSWERS.

3. CHANGE IN U.S. PRESIDENTS: "I WAS TAKEN ABACK WHEN  
I HEARD THAT THE NEW PRESIDENT INTENDED TO FOLLOW  
NIXON'S LINE OF SCANDALS AND WAR AGAINSTPEOPLES".  
WHAT WOULD BE YOUR ADVICE TO PRESIDENT FORD? "HE  
SHOULD ASK ADVICE OF AMERICAN CITIZENS. THIS IS  
MATTER WHICH CONCERNS AMERICANS". THIS COULD NOT BE  
CONSIDERED SUCCESS FOR REPRESENTATIVE GOVT BECAUSE  
PARLIAMENTS ARE NEVER ANYTHING BUT RUBBER STAMPS."

4. PORTUGAL: "WE BEGAN DIALOGUE WITH PORTUAL AFTER  
COUP IN APRIL, AND IT IS CONTINUING TO THE PRESENT.  
IT HAS BROUGHT SOME POSTIVE RESULTS SO FOR, AND IT  
WILL CONTINUE UNTIL PORTUGAL DEFINES ITS FINAL POLICY  
WITH REGARD TO ITS AFRICAN COLONIES".

5. SPANISH SAHARA: "IT IS PART OF ARAB HOMELAND, IT  
MUST BE LIBERATED, AND IMPERIALIST PRESENCE ELIMINATED  
BY ALL MEANS POSSIBLE, INCLUDING OUTBREAK OF WAR".

6. DETEMTE AND ROLE OF GREAT POWERS IN MIDDLE EAST:  
"I CONSIDER THAT, FROM STRATEGIC POINT OF VIEW,  
INTERESTS OF EAST AND WEST (I.E. U.S. AND SOVIET UNION)  
ARE COMPLETELY CONTRADICTORY, AND THAT DETENTE IS ONLY  
TRANSITORY". THERE IS NO LEGIMATE ROLE FOR GREAT  
POWERS IN THIS REGION. BILATERAL RELATIONS, INCLUDING  
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MILITARY RELATIONS, ARE ANOTHER MATTER". WHAT ABOUT  
PROSPECTS FOR GENEVA? "GENEVA IS A PRETTY CITY, THE  
CAPITAL OF SWITZERLAND", BUT SOLUTION TO PROBLEM MUST COME  
THROUGH GOLAN SINAI, AND THE JORDAN RIVER6.

7. ARAB SUMMIT: "I ATTACH NO IMPORTANCE WHATEVER TO  
CONVENING OF ARAB SUMMIT".

8. HIS ROLE: ASKED TO COMMENT ON SPECULATION CONCERNING HIS NEW ROLE, AAFTER ANNOUNCEMENT HE WOULD CONCENTRATE ON IDEOLOGY, QADHAFI SAYS: "THAT IS NOT A SUBJECT FOR DISUSSION IN THIS INTERVIEW".

9. COMMEM: INTERVIEW TOOK PLACE IN OLIVE GROVE NEAR QADHAFI'S HOUSE IN TRIPOLI SUBURB, WITH PARTICIPANTS SEATED OHIGROUND NOT FAR FROM TENT WHERE QADHAFI'S MOTHER ANS SISTER WERE STAYING. QADHAFI WAS RELAXED KOCH SAYS; ON TAPE HE OFTEN BREAKS INTO LAUGHTER, AND OCCASIONALLY ANSWERS WITHOUT WAITING FOR ARABIC TRANSLATION. HIS ENGLISH S ROUGH YET SERVICABLE. THIS IS THIRD INTERVIEW QADHAFI HAS GIVEN WITHIN PAST WEEK, PROBABLY INDICATION HE FEELS MISUNDERSTAND AND IS ANXIOUS TO PUBLICIZE HIS SIDE OF QUARREL WITH SADAT. STEIN

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